

Association Consortium for Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCA)

STATUTES

Article 1: Name

The Association Consortium for Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (hereafter called Association ICCA Consortium) is hereby established as a non-profit association under Articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code.

Article 2: Location and Duration

The headquarters of the Association ICCA Consortium is Rue de Bugnau, 18, Bugnau (Essertines-sur-Rolle), CH 1180, Canton de Vaud. The headquarters may be transferred by a resolution of the Council ratified by the General Assembly (GA).

The duration of the Association is indefinite.

Article 3: Purpose

The Association ICCA Consortium is established to promote the appropriate recognition of, and support to, indigenous peoples' and community conserved areas and territories (ICCAs) at local, national and international levels.

This purpose is set in the context of the broader vision of conserving biodiversity and ecological functions, nurturing the sustainable livelihoods and wellbeing of indigenous peoples and local communities, and implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples— including self-determination and the full respect of their cultural diversity and collective and individual rights and responsibilities.

Article 4: Resources

The resources of the Association ICCA Consortium come from membership dues, funding of specific initiatives and projects by public and private donors, private donations, bequests and any other sources allowed by law.

The resources of the Association ICCA Consortium can be used only and irrevocably for the purpose stated in its Statutes.

Article 5: Members

The Members of the Association ICCA Consortium are customary and/or formal organizations from any country or territory, with involvement, experience and commitment in governing and/or supporting ICCAs at local, national and/or international levels. For-profit corporations are excluded from membership.

Any organization willing to collaborate in achieving the purpose of the Association ICCA Consortium and adhering fully to these Statutes may submit a membership application to the Council (defined in article 10 below).

Only Members in good standing (i.e., who have paid their membership dues up to and including the year prior to a General Assembly meeting or whose exemption has been agreed by the Council) are entitled to vote in that General Assembly.

Honorary members are individuals or organizations with demonstrated capacity and commitment towards the purpose of the Association. The Council may invite individuals or organizations to become Honorary members of the Association ICCA Consortium by recommendation of at least two Members of the Association. Honorary members can attend the General Assembly and contribute in an advisory capacity without the right to vote. They have no obligation regarding membership dues.

Any Member or Honorary member who wishes to leave the Association may resign by addressing the Council in writing.

A Member that exhibits a sustained lack of involvement in the Association's work, who has not paid its dues for more than 2 years and/or who has prejudiced the purpose of the Association in a serious way may be excluded from the Association ICCA Consortium by the General Assembly with a simple majority vote.

An Honorary member who exhibits a sustained lack of involvement in the Association's work and/or has prejudiced the purpose of the Association in a serious way may be excluded from the Association by decision of the Council.

The assets of the Association ICCA Consortium can only be committed in its own name. Members and/or Honorary members do not bear personal or organizational responsibility for the Association.

Article 6: Organs

The organs of the Association ICCA Consortium are:

- The General Assembly
- The Council
- The Auditor of Accounts

Article 7: General Assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme authority of the Association ICCA Consortium and is composed of all its Members. The Ordinary General Assembly meets every year at the call of the Council. The call is submitted electronically providing as much notice as possible and with a minimum of six weeks in advance. The preliminary agenda of the meeting is submitted at least ten days in advance.

An Extraordinary General Assembly may be convened by the President, by the Council, or by at least fifteen Members if they make a specific request to the Council.

A General Assembly is valid if at least three Members in good standing are physically in attendance. The General Assembly, by a simple majority, can modify this rule of validity and adopt a more adequate quorum following evolution of the total number of Members. Members in good standing who cannot be physically represented in a General Assembly may submit a written proxy to another Member in good standing, or may participate in the General Assembly via electronic means (e.g., by video conference or teleconference).

Article 8: Powers of the General Assembly

The General Assembly:

- approves admission or exclusion of Members
- designates the Council as well as a President, Secretary (called Coordinator) and the Treasurer.
- notes the annual reports and accounts and makes decisions as appropriate
- approves the annual budget
- supervises the activities of other organs which it can revoke for serious reasons.
- designates the Auditor of Accounts
- decides all changes to the Statutes
- determines the annual membership dues
- decides on the dissolution of the Association

Article 9: General Assembly Decisions

The General Assembly decisions are taken by consensus, building upon the advice of all Members and Honorary members willing to contribute. Failing that, decisions are valid when approved by a simple majority of Members present or voting by proxy. In case of a tied vote the chairperson of that particular Assembly has the deciding vote. A report from the General Assembly to the Members will be submitted as soon as possible after the meeting clearly specifying all major decisions and agreements. The General Assembly shall be chaired by the President of the Association ICCA Consortium. In the absence of the latter, the Members physically present, voting by proxy, or participating via electronic means shall elect a chair for that meeting.

The General Assembly decides about any changes to the Statutes and about the eventual dissolution of the Association ICCA Consortium by a two-thirds majority of the Members physically or electronically present and voting by proxy.

Article 10: Council

The Council is composed of a minimum of seven and a maximum of twenty-one individuals chosen from among the representatives of the Members and the Honorary members. These individuals, including the President, the Coordinator (Secretary) and the Treasurer, are elected by the General Assembly.

The Members of the Council take on their duty on a fully voluntary basis and can only claim compensation for the actual costs and travel expenses eventually incurred to accomplish such duties. The mandate of the members of the Council is for three years and is renewable.

The Council meets in person and/or by electronic means as often as required, but at least twice a year. The Council shall be convened by the President, the Coordinator, or at the request of any two Members. Decisions are taken by consensus or by a majority of votes of the Members in case consensus proves impossible. The President shall have the deciding vote in case of a tie.

Article 11: Powers of the Council

The Council:

- represents the Association ICCA Consortium, as needed;
- engages in all activities necessary for the operation of the Association, including developing proposals for initiatives and projects in cooperation with Members and partners in order to achieve the purpose of the Association;
- decides on the establishment of any Committee or Working Group and identifies those responsible for carrying out specific initiatives and projects;
- submits an annual programme of proposed activities and budget to the General Assembly;
- submits reports of activities and the accounts to the General Assembly;
- manages the resources of the Association in accordance with its purpose;
- submits and recommends to the Members the admission of new Members and/or the exclusion of existing Members; and
- calls for the meetings of the General Assembly, submits their preliminary agendas and needed information via electronic means, prepares draft decisions for the General Assembly.

Art. 12 - Engagement of the Association

The Association ICCA Consortium is engaged, including financially, by the individual signature of its President, Coordinator, or Treasurer.

Art. 13 - Accounting and Accountability

The accounting period is the Gregorian calendar year (1 January – 31 December), except during the first year when it shall be from the date of establishment to 31 December of that year. The accounts are prepared by the Treasurer and controlled by the Auditor of Accounts designated by the General Assembly. The bank accounts are established and managed by the President, Coordinator, and Treasurer.

Art 14 - Dissolution

The dissolution of the Association ICCA Consortium shall be decided by the General Assembly called for that purpose at least three months in advance of the meeting. The eventual residual assets shall be donated to another civil society organisation that, in virtue of its public interest objective, is not subjected to income taxes in Switzerland and whose purpose is compatible with that of the Association ICCA Consortium. The assets could also be attributed to an initiative of the Swiss Confederation, of a Swiss Canton or of a Swiss Municipality also compatible with the purpose of the Association.

Art 15 - Entry into Force

The present Statutes come into force on the day of their approval by the General Assembly.

Approved by the XI General Assembly of the Association ICCA Consortium in Geneva, Switzerland, on 25/26 November, 2017.